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Letter dated 6 August 2001 from the Permanent Representative of Israel to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General

I wish to draw your attention to the latest incidents in the ongoing Palestinian campaign of terrorism directed against Israeli soldiers and civilians.

At approximately 10 p.m. (local time) last night, Tehiya Blumberg, age 40 and mother of five, was murdered when terrorists opened fire on her vehicle. Blumberg's husband, Shimon, and her 14-year-old daughter, Tzippi, were both seriously injured in the attack.

Also yesterday, a Palestinian gunman opened fire with an automatic rifle outside the headquarters of the Israeli Defence Ministry in Tel Aviv, wounding 10 people. The attack occurred shortly after midday, an hour when the area surrounding the Defence Ministry compound is crowded with pedestrians. An alert traffic policeman was able to stop the gunman before he inflicted further damage.

Both these attacks come amidst numerous instances of gunfire directed at Israeli military and civilian targets. On the evening of 4 August, Palestinian gunmen from the neighbourhood of Beit Jala again opened fire on Israeli residents of the southern Jerusalem neighbourhood of Gilo. Several apartments and other civilian property were damaged, and one woman was hospitalized with light injuries. In addition, Israeli forces have succeeded in intercepting a number of terrorist attacks in recent days, including an attempted bombing planned for the crowded Central Bus Station in Tel Aviv.

These attacks and attempted attacks are merely the latest manifestations of the continuing Palestinian terrorist campaign directed against Israeli soldiers and civilians. Earlier incidents were detailed in my letters dated 27 July 2001 (A/56/225-S/2001/743), 26 July 2001 (A/56/223-S/2001/737), 17 July 2001 (A/56/201-S/2001/706), 13 July 2001 (A/56/184-S/2001/696), 3 July 2001 (A/56/138-S/2001/662), 2 July 2001 (A/56/131-S/2001/656), 21 June 2001 (A/56/119-S/2001/619), 19 June 2001 (A/56/98-S/2001/611), 18 June 2001 (A/56/97-

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S/2001/604), 13 June 2001 (A/56/92-S/2001/585), 11 June 2001 (A/56/91-S/2001/580), 4 June 2001 (A/56/85-S/2001/555), 30 May 2001 (A/56/81-S/2001/540), 25 May 2001 (A/56/80-S/2001/524), 18 May 2001 (A/56/78-S/2001/506), 11 May 2001 (A/56/72-S/2001/473), 9 May 2001 (A/56/69-S/2001/459), 1 May 2001 (A/55/924-S/2001/435), 23 April 2001 (A/55/910-S/2001/396), 16 April 2001 (A/55/901-S/2001/364), 28 March 2001 (A/55/863-S/2001/291), 27 March 2001 (A/55/860-S/2001/280), 26 March 2001 (A/55/858-S/2001/278), 19 March 2001 (A/55/842-S/2001/244), 5 March 2001 (A/55/821-S/2001/193), 2 March 2001 (A/55/819-S/2001/187), 14 February 2001 (A/55/787-S/2001/137), 13 February 2001 (A/55/781-S/2001/132), 2 February 2001 (A/55/762-S/2001/103), 25 January 2001 (A/55/748-S/2001/81), 23 January 2001 (A/55/742-S/2001/71), 28 December 2000 (A/55/719-S/2000/1252), 22 November 2000 (A/55/641-S/2000/1114), 20 November 2000 (A/55/634-S/2000/1108) and 2 November 2000 (A/55/540-S/2000/1065).

Despite the fact that both sides agreed in June to a ceasefire, and the fact that the Palestinians continually claim to be adhering to the ceasefire, 18 Israelis have been killed and over 700 incidents of terrorism have occurred since the ceasefire went into effect on 13 June 2001. There has been no significant effort exerted by the Palestinian Authority to control violence and terrorism emanating from the areas under its control, nor has the incitement in the media and by religious authorities significantly declined. Israel has, on more than one occasion, provided the Palestinian authorities with names of individuals currently engaged in planning terrorist attacks on Israelis, yet the Palestinian leadership has steadfastly refused to take any action against them.

Israel reiterates its call on the Palestinian leadership to strictly adhere to the terms of the ceasefire and to take immediate and concerted action to halt all acts of Palestinian terrorism directed at Israeli civilians.

I should be grateful if you would arrange to have the text of this letter circulated as an official document of the fifty-sixth session of the General Assembly, under item 178 of the provisional agenda, and of the Security Council.

(*Signed*) Yehuda **Lancry**
Permanent Representative